D71

INQUIRE=DOC19D
ITEM NO=00187826
ENVELOPE
CDSN = LGX355 MCN = 92261/30310 TOR = 922611911
OTTCZYUW RUEKJCS8503 2611911-CCCC--RUEALGX.
ZNY CCCCC
HEADER
O 171911Z SEP 92
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEADTS/USDP:DTSA
RUEOACC/CDRPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AORC-POG-SB//
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
RUEALGX/SAFE
O 171901Z SEP 92
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3023
INFO RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0010
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC PRIORITY 3231
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHN /DEAHQS WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEADWW/DIRONCP WASHDC PRIORITY
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCJ2/POLAD/SCJ3-DDD//
BT
CONTROLS
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LA PAZ 014864

DEPT FOR ARA, ARA/AND AND INM
PLEASE PASS TO AID/LAC
NSC FOR BEERS; ONDCP FOR PORTER
DEA FOR OC AND OF; DOD FOR ISA; USIA FOR AR

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

/********** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE **********/
BODY
TAGS: PREL, SNAR, EAID, EINV, MASS, OTRA, PINR, UN, BL
SUBJECT: BACKGROUND FOR POSSIBLE ARONSON-PAZ ZAMORA
- MEETING

REF: ARA/AND-EMBASSY TELCONS, 9/14-15/92

1. CONFIDENTIAL -- ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: IN RESPONSE TO REFTELCONS, THE FOLLOWING IS OUR VIEW OF THE BACKGROUND, LIKELY GOB OBJECTIVES AND RECOMMENDED USG OBJECTIVES FOR THE A/S ARONSON-PAZ ZAMORA BILATERAL TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR 0900-1000 ON SEPTEMBER 23 AT THE UNGA. WE ARE ASSUMING THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED CONFIRMATION FROM THE MFA OR MINPRES. SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS ARE BEING

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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FOIA Exemptions
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MR Cases Only:
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TS authority to:

SENT SEPTEL. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SOME OF THIS INFORMATION MAY BE INCLUDED ALREADY IN THE DEPARTMENT'S BRIEFING MATERIALS FOR THAT MEETING. THE SEPTEMBER 23 MEETING SHOULD PRESENT A BALANCED, BUT FIRM MESSAGE THAT SIGNALS OUR RECOGNITION OF THE GOB'S PROGRESS IN DEMOCRATIC AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND IN THE WAR ON DRUGS, BUT THAT ALSO UNDERSCORES OUR DISMAY AT A RECENT LACK OF GOB POLITICAL LEADERSHIP ON SOME ISSUES (I.E., CIVIC ACTION TROOP DEPLOYMENTS, DEA STATUS, ETC.) THE MEETING SHOULD ALSO URGE A SMOOTH DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION IN BOLIVIA IN 1993, MORE FOCUSED ON THE LONG-TERM NEEDS OF THE COUNTRY THAN ON SHORT-TERM POLITICAL GAINS. END SUMMARY.

BACKGROUND

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3. USG-GOB RELATIONS ARE FUNDAMENTALLY SOUND. THERE IS BASIC BOLIVIAN POLITICAL AGREEMENT WITH OUR MAJOR POLICY OBJECTIVES: MAINTAINING AND STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY, ENCOURAGING FREE MARKET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMBATING DRUG TRAFFICKING.

4. THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS IN ALL THREE OF THESE AREAS:

-- BOLIVIA IS PREPARING FOR ITS THIRD PEACEFUL, DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION OF POWER IN 1993 AND MANY POLITICIANS (INCLUDING PAZ ZAMORA) ALREADY ARE PLANNING FOR THE 1997 ELECTIONS;

-- THE ECONOMY IS GROWING AT LAST, WITH INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES FOR (AND ACCEPTANCE OF) FOREIGN INVESTMENT; AND

-- COUNTERNARCOTICS LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS, PARTICULARLY IN THE ON-GOING OPERATION GHOST ZONE, HAVE YIELDED SIGNIFICANT SUCCESSES. THE PACE OF COCA ERADICATION ALSO HAS IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY (ALTHOUGH FORCED ERADICATION APPEARS TO BE A POLITICAL NON-STARTER). DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES IN COCA-GROWING AREAS HAS IMPROVED STEADILY.

5. HOWEVER, THE BILATERAL CONTROVERSIES OF RECENT MONTHS (ON CIVIC ACTION TROOP DEPLOYMENTS, DEA STATUS, ETC.) HIGHLIGHT SOME CONTRADICTIONS BETWEEN THE "MODERN" BOLIVIA IMAGE PAZ ZAMORA IS TRYING TO PROJECT AND THE INSULAR, INSECURE, UNPREDICTABLE IMAGE OF BOLIVIA'S PAST.

6. PAZ ZAMORA WILL SEE A/S ARONSON (IF THE MEETING TAKES PLACE AS PLANNED) BEFORE MEETING WITH THE UNSYG,

ADDRESSING THE UNGA (DURING WHICH HE PROBABLY WILL RAISE THE "INDUSTRIALIZATION OF COCA" ISSUE AND MAY ALSO RAISE THE TRADITIONAL ACCESS TO THE SEA ISSUE) AND POSSIBLY MEETING WITH ECUADOR'S PRESIDENT SIXTO DURAN. PAZ ZAMORA IS TO FLY TO WASHINGTON ON SEPTEMBER 23 FOR THE HANDOVER OF ARTIFACTS SEIZED BY U.S. CUSTOMS AND INDIGENOUS FUND MEETINGS AT THE IDB ON SEPTEMBER 24.

PAZ ZAMORA'S GOALS

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7. PAZ ZAMORA IS LIKELY TO EMPHASIZE BOLIVIA'S PROGRESS UNDER HIS ADMINISTRATION AND TO DESCRIBE BOLIVIA'S CURRENT SITUATION IN ROSE-COLORED HUES. (BY LAW HE CANNOT SERVE CONSECUTIVE TERMS, BUT HE IS TRYING TO END HIS 1989-1993 TERM ON AS GOOD A NOTE AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO POSITION HIMSELF FOR REELECTION IN 1997.) HIS RECENT INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC DESCRIPTIONS OF BOLIVIA HAVE BEEN OPTIMISTIC;

/****** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 ******/
HIS AUGUST 6 STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS WAS CRITICIZED AS BEING TOO MUCH SO.

8. PAZ ZAMORA IS LIKELY TO:

-- EMPHASIZE THAT BOLIVIA IS MEETING ITS BILATERAL OBLIGATIONS, AS OUTLINED IN OUR ESF AND COUNTERNARCOTICS AGREEMENTS;

-- CONTRAST BOLIVIA'S RELATIVE POLITICAL STABILITY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COUNTERNARCOTICS SUCCESSES WITH THE SITUATION IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES;

-- TAKE CREDIT FOR "REORDERING" USG-GOB RELATIONS IN RECENT WEEKS (ALTHOUGH THIS HAS BEEN MORE AN IMPROVEMENT IN PROCESS RATHER THAN A SHIFT IN POLICY); AND

-- THANK PRESIDENT BUSH FOR HIS REPLY ON THE MULLINS-CRANSTON LETTER ISSUE. PAZ ZAMORA PUTS GREAT STOCK IN HAVING A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH PRESIDENT BUSH AND ON MAINTAINING GOOD (OR AT LEAST EVEN-KEELED) RELATIONS WITH THE USG.

USG GOALS

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9. ALTHOUGH WEIGHTIER ISSUES ELSEWHERE INEVITABLY DOMINATE USG ATTENTION, BOLIVIA SHOULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED SIMPLY BECAUSE IT IS RELATIVELY LESS-TROUBLED THAN ITS NEIGHBORS. A SESSION WITH A/S ARONSON WOULD UNDERSCORE

THAT THE USG CONTINUES TO TAKE A DEEP INTEREST IN BOLIVIAN DEVELOPMENT AND IN BILATERAL RELATIONS.

10. THE A/S ARONSON MEETING SHOULD BE USED TO SIGNAL OUR RECOGNITION OF THE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS BOLIVIA IS MAKING IN DEMOCRACY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COUNTERNARCOTICS, BUT ALSO TO EMPHASIZE USG DISMAY AT A NUMBER OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. OUR MESSAGE SHOULD BE BALANCED, BUT FIRM. THE USG DOES NOT WANT TO SEE THE PROGRESS MADE DURING PAZ ZAMORA'S ADMINISTRATION AND PREVIOUSLY UNDERMINED BY PRE-ELECTORAL POLITICAL EXPEDIENCY AND THE TEMPTATION OF CORRUPTION.

11. THE GOB SHOULD HOLD A STEADY COURSE AND WORK FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION OF POWER IN THE 1993 ELECTIONS. WITH UNCERTAINTY IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY EXPECTED DURING OUR ELECTORAL PERIOD, AND PUBLIC INTEREST IN AND RESOURCES FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS LIKELY TO DECREASE NO MATTER WHO IS ELECTED, A CONSISTENT, PREDICTABLE GOB-USG RELATIONSHIP CAN ONLY BENEFIT BOLIVIA. HOWEVER, SUCH STABILITY WILL REQUIRE MORE GOB DISCIPLINE, LEADERSHIP AND POLITICAL WILL THAN WE HAVE SEEN IN RECENT MONTHS.

12. SEPTEL ADDRESSES SPECIFIC TALKING POINTS ON OVERALL BILATERAL RELATIONS; CIVIC ACTION (AND OTHER U.S. MILITARY) DEPLOYMENTS; COUNTERNARCOTICS ISSUES, INCLUDING DEA/TDY STATUS, COCA DIPLOMACY, COCA ERADICATION, TRAFFICKER SENTENCES AND EXTRADITION; AND ECONOMIC/TRADE ISSUES, INCLUDING PRIVATIZATION, THE LITHCO CONTRACT, THE BIT AND INVESTMENT IN GENERAL.

BOWERS
ADMIN
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